

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling subscriber access in a network capable of establishing connections with a plurality of services, comprising:

receiving, at an access server coupled to a first communication network and a second communication network, a communication from a subscriber on said ~~using a first~~ communication network ~~coupled to a second communication network~~, said communication optionally including a domain identifier associated with a service on a network device located on said second communication network; and authorizing said subscriber to access [a] only said service on said network device located on said second communication network using one of a plurality of virtual circuits, said authorizing based upon a domain configuration override attribute associated with the virtual circuit used to receive said communication from said subscriber.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said authorizing further comprises:
receiving from a memory a virtual circuit profile associated with said virtual circuit;
assessing said virtual circuit profile to determine if a domain configuration override attribute exists within said virtual circuit profile; and
forcing ~~allowing~~ said subscriber to connect exclusively to a service associated with said domain configuration override attribute when said domain configuration override attribute exists within said virtual circuit profile.

3-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 [6] wherein said receiving a virtual circuit profile further comprises performing a table lookup based upon a Virtual Path Identifier (VPI) / Virtual Channel Identifier (VCI) associated with said virtual circuit.

8. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method to control subscriber access in a network capable of establishing connections with a plurality of services, the method comprising:

receiving, at an access server coupled to a first communication network and a second communication network, a communication from a subscriber on said ~~using~~ a first communication network ~~coupled to a second communication network,~~ said communication optionally including a domain identifier associated with a service on a network device located on said second communication network; and
authorizing said subscriber to access [a] only said service on said network device located on said second communication network using one of a plurality of virtual circuits, said authorizing based upon a domain configuration override attribute associated with the virtual circuit used to receive said communication from said subscriber.

9. (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim 8 wherein said authorizing further comprises:

receiving from a memory a virtual circuit profile associated with said virtual circuit;

assessing said virtual circuit profile to determine if a domain configuration override attribute exists within said virtual circuit profile; and
forcing ~~allowing~~ said subscriber to connect exclusively to a service associated with said domain configuration override attribute when said domain configuration override attribute exists within said virtual circuit profile.

10-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim 9 [13] wherein said receiving a virtual circuit profile further comprises performing a table lookup based upon a Virtual Path Identifier (VPI) / Virtual Channel Identifier (VCI) associated with said virtual circuit.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for controlling subscriber access in a network capable of establishing connections with a plurality of services, the apparatus comprising:
means for receiving, at an access server coupled to a first communication network and a second communication network, a communication from a subscriber on said ~~using a~~ first communication network ~~coupled to a second communication network~~, said communication optionally including a domain identifier associated with a service on a network device located on said second communication network; and
means for authorizing said subscriber to access [a] only said service on said network device located on said second communication network using one of a plurality of virtual circuits, said authorizing based upon a domain configuration override attribute associated with the virtual circuit used to receive said communication from said subscriber.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said means for authorizing further comprises:

means for receiving from a memory a virtual circuit profile associated with said virtual circuit;

means for assessing said virtual circuit profile to determine if a domain configuration override attribute exists within said virtual circuit profile; and

means for forcing ~~allowing~~ said subscriber to connect exclusively to a service associated with said domain configuration override attribute when said domain configuration override attribute exists within said virtual circuit profile.

17-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 16 [20] wherein said means for receiving a virtual circuit profile further comprises a means for performing a table lookup based upon a Virtual Path Identifier (VPI) / Virtual Channel Identifier (VCI) associated with said virtual circuit.

22. (Currently Amended) An access server capable of forcing subscribers of a first communications network coupled to said access server system to gain access exclusively to a service located on a network device in a second communications network coupled to said access server using a virtual circuit ~~domain network associated with a virtual circuit~~, said access server comprising:

an authorizer capable of granting service authorization to said subscribers based upon a virtual circuit used to make a service request;

a virtual circuit profile request generator capable of generating virtual circuit profile requests;

an assessor capable of assessing said requested virtual circuit profile for a domain configuration override attribute; and

a calculator capable of determining whether the service associated with said virtual circuit matches the service associated with said domain configuration override attribute.

23. (Original) The access server of claim 22, further comprising:

a receiving interface capable of accepting said service requests;

a forwarding interface capable of sending said virtual circuit profile requests to a memory bank; and

a second receiving interface capable of accepting requested virtual circuit profiles.

24. (Original) The access server of claim 22 wherein said service request comprises a Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP) session service request.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The access server of claim 22 [25] wherein said assessor is capable of performing a table lookup based upon a Virtual Path Identifier (VPI) / Virtual Channel Identifier (VCI) associated with said virtual circuit.

28. (Currently Amended) The access server of claim 23 [26] wherein said receiving interface comprises at least one access multiplexer, each access multiplexer having a plurality of inputs for receiving a service request, each of said inputs being associated with a particular subscriber virtual circuit.

29. (Currently Amended) The access server of claim 23 wherein said memory bank and said access server communicate using the Remote Authentication Authorization ~~Authorization~~ Dial-In User Service (RADIUS) protocol.

30. (Currently Amended) An access server capable of forcing subscribers of a first communications network coupled to said access server system to gain access exclusively to a service located on a network device in a second communications network coupled to said access server using a virtual circuit ~~domain network associated with a virtual circuit~~, said access server comprising:

- a memory device capable of storing a plurality of virtual circuit profiles, said virtual circuit profiles capable of having a domain configuration override attribute associated with subscriber authorized services;
- an authorizer capable of granting service authorization to said subscribers based upon a virtual circuit used to make a service request;
- a virtual circuit profile request generator capable of generating virtual circuit profile requests;
- an assessor capable of assessing said requested virtual circuit profile for a domain configuration override attribute; and
- a calculator capable of determining whether the service associated with said virtual circuit matches the service associated with said domain configuration override attribute.

31. (Currently Amended) The access server of claim 30 ~~29~~, further comprising:

- a receiving interface capable of accepting said service requests;
- a forwarding interface capable of sending said virtual circuit profile requests to a memory bank; and
- a second receiving interface capable of accepting requested virtual circuit profiles.

32-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) The access server of claim 30 [33] wherein said assessor is capable of performing a table lookup based upon a Virtual Path Identifier (VPI) / Virtual Channel Identifier (VCI) associated with said virtual circuit.

36. (Currently Amended) The access server of claim 31 [34] wherein said receiving interface comprises at least one access multiplexer, each access multiplexer having a plurality of inputs for receiving a service request, each of said inputs being associated with a particular subscriber virtual circuit.